

REMARKS

The present Amendment, for which a 2-month extension is hereby requested, is responsive to the Official Action mailed on March 10, 2004. The Office Action allowed claims 23, 24, and 26 and rejected claims 25 and 27-34 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 25 and 27 have been amended to remove the noted antecedent problems and claims 25 and 27-34 are also now believed allowable.

New claims 35-46 have been added. Independent claims 35 and 39 include the limitation of a having a serial transfer portion for data to and from the memory chip, an aspect of the present invention also included in the claims of the direct parent of the present application. Dependent claims 36-38 and 40-46 are the same as previously pending dependent claims 24-26 and 28-34, respectively, except that they depend on either claim 35 or 39 instead of claim 23 or 27.

An information disclosure statement is also included with the present Amendment to cite several Office Actions from parents of the present application that dealt with similar claim sets as the previously presented claims in the present application. Copies of the Office Actions and the claims with which they dealt are also included.

Reconsideration of claims 25 and 27-34, and consideration of new claims 35-46, and an early indication of their allowance are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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